



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, ALASKA**

JAN 07 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON PERSONNEL

FROM: JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON INSTALLATION COMMANDER

SUBJECT: JBER COVID-19 Installation Policy Memorandum

References: (a) DoD Instruction 6200.03, Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Within the DoD, 28 Mar 19
(b) "Health Protection Condition (HPCON) BRAVO Declaration," 17 Sep 21
(c) Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 20) – Department of Defense Guidance for Personnel Traveling During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," 12 Apr 21
(d) "Consolidated USINDOPACOM Force Health Protection Guidance," 26 Apr 21
(e) Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 15, Revision 3) – Department of Defense Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Laboratory Testing Services," 30 Dec 21
(f) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Use of Masks and Other Public Health Measures," 4 Feb 21
(g) Secretary of the Air Force Memorandum, "Department of the Air Force Guidance on Use of Masks," 16 Feb 21
(h) JBER Installation Commander Memorandum, "JBER Additional Exceptions to Mask Wear Requirement," 14 May 21
(i) USINDOPACOM Memorandum, "COVID-19 Restriction of Movement (ROM) requirements for HQ USINDOPACOM and Service Components in Hawaii," 4 Mar 21
(j) PACAF Battle Staff Directive, "Restriction of Movement (ROM) Exemptions"
(k) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Update to Conditions-based Approach to Coronavirus Disease 2019 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions," 15 Mar 21
(l) USARPAC OPORD, "ANNEX T: #21-07-036/FRAGO 1 to 21-07-003, USARPAC Consolidated COVID-19 Response Guidance"
(m) Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 18) – Department of Defense Guidance for Protecting Personnel in Workplaces during the Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," 17 Mar 21
(n) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Exemption from the Requirement to Undergo Restriction of Movement on Arrival in the United States for Fully Vaccinated Foreign Military and Civilian Personnel on Official Department of Defense Travel during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic," 8 Jun 21
(o) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Updated Mask Guidance for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities," 28 Jul 21
(p) Under Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 23) Revision 3 – Department of Defense Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Attestation, Screening, Testing, and Vaccination Verification," 20 Dec 21

1. This memorandum applies to personnel who live, work, and recreate on JBER as well as visitors to the installation. It supersedes JBER Installation Commander Memorandum, "JBER COVID-19 Installation Policy Memorandum," 10 Nov 21. This memorandum is guided by and summarizes pre- and post-travel guidance contained in reference (c). *The policy and procedures outlined in this memorandum are subject to change with more restrictive measures and without notice based on evolving virus epidemiology, local conditions, and HHQ guidance.*

2. The recent spread of the COVID-19 Omicron variant throughout the US and INDOPACOM theater of operations presents a potential threat to our readiness and installation mission execution. Although the Omicron variant has a lower hospitalization and death rate, as compared to other variants, its transmissibility is the highest of any variant to date which could significantly and negatively impact a unit's ability to carry out its mission. The best defense in combating this new variant is a COVID-19 booster shot. Service members who received their second Pfizer shot at least five months ago, second Moderna shot at least six months ago or those who received a Janssen (J&J) shot at least two months ago are highly encouraged to receive a booster shot. As the State and Municipality continue to review and update their mitigation controls, we will continue to synchronize our installation activities; however, there will be situations where we maintain greater restrictions than local government controls.

3. JBER's priorities remain 1) the health and safety of our military and civilian personnel and their families; 2) safeguarding and preserving our national security capabilities; and 3) supporting our local community and the state of Alaska's response to the pandemic. Our focus is to maintain mission and medical readiness for the installation. The intent of this memo is to adjust current installation guidance to suppress wider spread and transmission of the virus within the on- and off-base communities. The installation health and safety guidelines are updated as detailed herein.

4. JBER Public Health Guidance:

a. Self-monitor health; seek immediate medical care (907-580-2778 option 1) if symptoms (cough, fever, or shortness of breath) develop. Otherwise, if you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME.

b. General: "fully immunized" is defined as two weeks after the second dose of a two-shot series, or two weeks after one dose in a single-shot series.

c. Mask Wear.

(1) Based off the substantial or high community transmission rate within our local area DoD requires all Service Members, Federal employees, onsite contractor employees, and visitors, **regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask in an indoor setting** on the installation and other facilities, owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by DoD (reference o).

(2) Per references (f), (g), and (o), exceptions are limited to: 1) inside private dwellings, 2) while driving in vehicles, if an individual is the lone operator or if all occupants in the vehicle are members of the same family group, 3) when an individual is in his or her own office *alone* with a closed door or *alone* with an open door and six-feet physical distancing is maintained, 4) when eating or drinking, 5) those with a medical exemption, 6) when actively exercising indoors and established mitigation controls are followed, 7) when necessary to reasonably accommodate a religious belief, 8) when wear interferes with use of personal protective, oxygen, or chemical equipment required for the performance of duties, 9) when clear or unrestricted visualization of verbal communication is essential to safe and effective military operations, 10) while operating machinery, if mask wear impairs safe operation (e.g., impairing vision of an operator who requires glasses to drive by fogging the lenses), 11) when using equipment, including musical equipment, to perform duties and the equipment cannot be

operated when wearing a mask, 12) when the mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes, or 13) if mask wear otherwise interferes in the performance of military duties. In all cases, once the situation, impairment or interference ceases, personnel will immediately don their mask. Non-compliance may result in disciplinary or debarment action.

(3) In addition to the above, all personnel on JBER regardless of vaccination status are required to wear a mask outdoors on JBER in the following cases: 1) when directed by a commander; 2) when experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19; and 3) when required by other federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.

(4) Per reference (f), personnel within Anchorage School District (ASD) facilities and vehicles within the installation are exempted from DoD guidelines. However, personnel, including students, directed to quarantine by JBER Public Health are not permitted entry into ASD facilities on JBER. Personnel within ASD facilities and vehicles will follow ASD, municipal, state, and federal CDC safety and mitigation guidelines regarding mask wear and other appropriate public health measures. Mask wear mandates apply to children to the maximum extent possible, though children two and younger are exempt, and children five and younger are exempt when patrons at base Child and Youth Programs.

(5) Fitness Centers. Regardless of vaccination status all members will wear a mask in all fitness centers and Hangar 5 unless actively working out. There is no capacity limit on personnel inside fitness centers and Hangar 5.

d. Maintain consistent personal hygiene, particularly frequent hand-sanitizing.

e. Maintain a daily routine for sanitation, i.e., disinfect workstations, common areas, etc.

f. In accordance with references (f) and (o), if the level of community transmission in the Anchorage Municipality is low or moderate as determined in accordance with applicable CDC guidance and definitions, then the restrictions contained in paragraph 4.c.(1) of this policy memorandum will not apply to fully immunized personnel.

5. Quarantine and Restriction of Movement (ROM)

a. If an individual who works, resides, or visits JBER (to include military, civilian, contractor, or dependent) tests positive for or displays symptoms of COVID-19, notify chain of command and begin isolation for a five-day period. Day Zero is the full first day of symptoms. Day One is the first full day *after* symptoms developed. Personnel may leave isolation after five days if they are no longer having symptoms or if they have no fever for more than 24 hours (and any remaining symptoms are resolving). A negative test is not required to discontinue isolation. If fever, shortness of breath, or severe fatigue starts or continues, personnel must stay in isolation until these symptoms resolve. Health Care Professionals in the 673 MDG and associated units may have separate quarantine and isolation guidance as defined by the most recent CDC and DHA publications.

b. If Public Health determines an individual who works, resides, or visits JBER (to include military, civilian, contractor, or dependent) has had close contact with a known positive case of COVID-19, that individual will be directed to quarantine for up to five days and seek medical advice from their Primary Care Manager and care team for testing requirements. A close contact is defined as someone who was within six feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period within two days of their illness onset. Exceptions to this five-day quarantine requirement are: individuals who received their booster vaccine dose, completed the primary series of the Pfizer within five months, completed the primary series of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine within six

months, or received a dose of the Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine within two months. Parents of military dependent children attending one of the four on-base ASD schools, and staff who work at those schools, who are identified as a close contact will consult with Public Health for a formal determination on quarantine requirements. Irrespective of return-to-duty (RTD), individuals will abide by Alaska State and local Municipality Health Advisories.

c. Personnel who have not been fully immunized and return from *domestic travel*, as well as new arrivals, are allowed to enter all JBER storefronts immediately upon entry into Alaska while adhering to mask wear policies in para 4. All domestic travelers are authorized to return to duty in accordance with their unit chain of command procedures.

d. Personnel who are fully immunized will follow service guidance in references (d) and (l) regarding ROM after international travel. Fully immunized personnel *may* return to duty *and* enter JBER storefronts immediately after travel, provided they are not feeling ill or experiencing any possible COVID-19 symptoms. Regardless of immunization status all personnel will adhere to the mask wear policies in paragraph 4 and abide by Alaska State and local Municipality Health Advisories.

e. Travelers conducting official and unofficial travel between Hawaii and Alaska must follow the prescribed ROM guidance contained in reference (i). Exemptions apply to personnel who have fully recovered from a laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 infection within 90 days or have a current and completed COVID-19 immunization series more than 14 days prior to the date ROM would begin. Additionally, service members should ensure they are following their respective service and Major Command guidance referenced (j) and (l) that applies to members of PACAF and USARPAC respectively.

f. Aircrew who are returning from travel, having exclusively performed official duties established under AMC FCIF or FAA SAFO COVID-19 mitigation protocols, are waived from installation ROM in accordance with reference (d).

g. ROM personnel must remain in their domicile (lodging, quarters, etc.), but may go outside on premises or quarters for outdoor exercise and other routine tasks. Privately owned vehicles are considered an extension of the personnel's domicile and can be used to go through drive through or curbside option food service/pickup. Identified needs of personnel in ROM will be addressed by their unit of assignment. Personnel whose presence is required in the workplace by their supervisor may return to work during the ROM period IAW reference (m). Medical services at the JBER MTF are considered authorized activities while on ROM. However, elective or non-urgent services should be deferred until off ROM if possible, conducted as a virtual appointment, or coordinated with the clinic or PCM beforehand. Consult your care team via MHS-Genesis Patient portal or telephone via central appointment line, (907) 580-2778, for questions or to coordinate a medical service while on ROM.

h. Public Health will continue to monitor CDC and Office of the Secretary of Defense sources for science updates and guidance regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. They will provide recommendations for activities and mitigation protocols accordingly. Personnel will continue to adhere to all current protocols contained in this policy memorandum to protect themselves and others

i. All travelers must educate themselves on local mandates in the areas they plan to travel, including communities through which they will travel, and will follow them to the maximum extent practicable. Additionally, all personnel conducting official international air travel will be tested with a viral test 1-3 days before departure IAW testing guidance, reference (c). For official international travel, all personnel will follow requirements of the country that they are travelling to.

j. Personnel arriving from out of Alaska that are participating in an exercise must comply with service, MAJCOM, and installation reporting instructions contained in reference (n).

6. Private Gatherings: Private gatherings remain a high risk of COVID-19 transmission. Socializing is also a very important part of living a full life. Private gatherings can be up to 25 total personnel, however private indoor gatherings on JBER are limited to no more than three family groups that are not fully immunized, and outdoor gatherings on JBER are limited to no more than five family groups that are not fully immunized. A family group is defined as a group of people who dwell in the same residence. Examples of a family group are: a single service member; roommates in either a house, apartment, dorm or barracks; or a family of seven. An au pair or other domestic aid may be considered part of a family group if, and only if, they share that group's dwelling as their primary residence.


7. Official Gatherings: Official gatherings are limited to 50 people indoors with appropriate distancing and mitigation controls. Unit commanders or comparable director level supervisors may approve gatherings of more than 50 people indoors with appropriate distancing and mitigation controls. Public Health guidance must be followed IAW paragraph 4. Unit commanders and directors are responsible for recording dates and names of persons at such a gathering for contact tracing purposes. Previously granted exceptions to policy that have approved mitigation controls, such as *military operations* or DFAC services, may continue to function. There are no limits on outdoor official gatherings, but social distancing and mitigation measures must still be followed. Outdoor events are encouraged over indoor events for large official gatherings such as commander's calls or changes of command.

8. Travelers from Foreign Countries seeking access to JBER: Individuals seeking access to JBER after travel from, or through, a foreign country will complete a ROM, if required, upon arrival to Alaska IAW references (c) and (d), service guidance, and as described in paragraph 5 of this memorandum. If required to ROM individuals must not enter JBER store fronts for the entire duration of the ROM. ROM requirements differ for immunized and not fully immunized personnel. Individuals living off-base should complete their required ROM prior to accessing the base. *For further detail on ROM periods and requirements individuals should refer to their chain of command or the POC in paragraph 13.* Hosts of travelers from Foreign Countries seeking access to JBER should contact Public Health for guidance on whether the hosts must quarantine. Foreign travelers to JBER are required to have a negative COVID-19 test no more than three days before travel before boarding a flight to the United States regardless of immunization status IAW reference (n). Fully immunized foreign travelers on official DoD travel are not required to ROM in the absence of more restrictive local guidance.

9. Determining Whether to Travel: A risk assessment, completed by the appropriate leader, is required for Service Members before all travel IAW reference (c). For DoD Civilian employees the risk assessment is mandatory for official travel and strongly encouraged for all other travel. For military members, foreign country leave requires approval by the Installation Commander and leave in the US outside the local area requires approval by the first O-5 or higher commander in the chain of command. The risk assessment of the health status of the traveler will include, at a minimum:

- a. Whether the individual has exhibited signs/symptoms of COVID-19 within previous 14 days.
- b. Whether the individual has had contact with anyone having, or known to have exhibited, signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 14 days.
- c. Whether the individual has traveled to a country, state, territory, or county with high or increasing COVID-19 transmission within the previous 14 days.

- d. Whether the individual is at increased risk of severe illness of COVID-19.
 - e. Whether the individual is familiar with how to self-monitor and what actions to take if he or she develops COVID-19 symptoms or contracts COVID-19.
 - f. Utilize the Defense Health Agency's Armed Forces Health Surveillance COVID-19 Dashboard that tracks the "Trajectory of Civilian COVID-19 Cases by County" available at: <https://go.intelink.gov/25BWvsS>; <https://covid-status.data.mil/#/>
10. **Failure to Comply:** Individuals who sponsor visitors onto JBER are responsible for their guests' conduct and compliance with guidance contained in this memorandum. Failure to comply with this directive may result in loss of sponsorship privileges, suspended base access, or debarment.
11. **ROM Exceptions to Policy for Mission Critical Personnel:** The USARAK Commanding General and Wing Commanders may assume risk and grant exceptions to policy for personnel (both Permanent and Temporary Duty) determined to be mission critical personnel to RTD. Any mission partner units not listed herein may contact 673 ABW/CV at 673abw.cc@us.af.mil or DSN 552-6738 for further guidance.
12. Commanders at all levels must ensure this guidance is briefed and made available to all personnel.
13. Address questions regarding this memorandum to 673 ABW/CV at (907) 552-6738.


KIRSTEN G. AGUILAR
Colonel, USAF
Commander